

Canada legalises cannabis



READING COMPREHENSION

1. Read the text and decide whether the following statements are true or false or not in the text.

	true	false	not in the text
a) Mr Trudeau wants to fight crime by legalising cannabis.			
b) Other Canadian prime ministers before Mr Trudeau have tried to legalise the drug.			
c) There are numerous countries in the world in which cannabis is allowed for recreational use.			
d) In Canada you are not allowed to have cannabis plants at home.			
e) Cannabis can be especially harmful for teenagers.			
f) A lot of Canadians are addicted to cannabis.			

2. Put the following notes in the right order (1-8) according to the text.

	number
a) Many people think it's a great idea to legalise cannabis.	
b) The senate has passed a new law which makes cannabis legal in Canada.	
c) Legalisation will help to get control over the use and the sales of cannabis.	
d) A lot of Canadians already use the drug and the police don't have the situation under control.	
e) Other countries consider following Canada's example.	
f) There has been fierce criticism of the new law which fully legalises cannabis.	
g) There will be long prison sentences for those who sell the drug to teenagers.	
h) Cannabis will soon be legally available in Canada.	

VOCABULARY

1. Find the missing letters (the ending of the first word is the beginning of the second word). The first words are words from the text that have to do with politics.

example: controversi _ _ right

controversia!right (controversial alright)

a) electi _ _ line

b) leg _ _ ternative

c) vo _ _ ach

d) legali _ _ parate

e) l _ _ ful

f) feder _ _ together

2. Find synonyms or synonymous expressions for the following words. Do not change the meaning of the sentences.

a) permit (paragraph 2) _____

b) purposes (paragraph 2) _____

c) maintain (paragraph 2) _____

d) fully (paragraph 2) _____

e) believes (paragraph 4) _____

f) jail (paragraph 7) _____

g) due to (paragraph 7) _____

h) remain (paragraph 8) _____

i) considering (paragraph 8) _____

3. Which words from the text are explained here?

- a) When you say you will definitely do certain things you make _____ (paragraph 1).
- b) A person who writes articles for newspapers is a _____ (paragraph 1).
- c) Kilograms or pounds are measurements of _____ (paragraph 2).
- d) A substance that can harm your body is a health _____ (paragraph 3).
- e) The act of allowing something by law which had been forbidden before is called _____ (paragraph 4).

4. Find the opposites of the following words.

- a) adults (paragraph 1) _____
- b) permit (paragraph 2) _____
- c) spending (paragraph 5) _____
- d) regularly (paragraph 5) _____
- e) buy (paragraph 6) _____
- f) large (paragraph 6) _____
- g) usual (paragraph 7) _____
- h) discourage (paragraph 7) _____

GRAMMAR

Complete the following text by putting the words in brackets in their correct forms. The question marks (???) mean you have to add a word.

Can cannabis really _____ (compare) to drugs like alcohol and cigarettes? Aren't its risks much _____ (high)? According _____ (???) health experts the drug can trigger schizophrenia and mental illnesses in teenagers and should not _____ (legalise). But

on the other hand there are many people _____ (???) use it for medical reasons such _____ (???) maintaining their weight during a serious illness or it is _____ (simple) used to relax and unwind. The Canadian government wants to combat crime by _____ (legalise) the drug. Politicians hope _____ (???) it will cut off money streams for criminals who deal in illegal drugs. Besides, legalisation would make the cannabis safer for users because there would be control over which substances _____ (cut) into the drug. People who buy cannabis illegally in the streets never _____ (know) whether something dangerous has been added to it to increase the profit for the criminals. But it is also a fact that people who use it over a long time run quite a high risk of _____ (get) addicted to cannabis. Like any other drug it affects your body and therefore your health as well. So it's not _____ (???) easy decision to make it legally available for adults.

SPEAKING

Find a partner for the following tasks:

Task I

Prime Minister Trudeau believes that legalising cannabis is a good way of controlling it.

Discuss.

Task II

Should the minimum legal age for smoking pot be raised to 25?

Discuss the pros and cons.

Task III

Smoking pot shouldn't be legalised because it can trigger episodes of schizophrenia in teenagers and it can get you to take other drugs, too. Discuss.

WRITING

Write a letter to the editor and express your opinion on Mr Trudeau's plans to legalise cannabis.

ANSWER KEY

READING COMPREHENSION

1. a) true
b) not in the text
c) false
d) false
e) true
f) not in the text

2. a) 4
b) 2
c) 6
d) 5
e) 8
f) 3
g) 7
h) 1

VOCABULARY

1. a) electionline
b) legalternative
c) voteach
d) legaliseparate
e) lawful
f) federaltogether

2. a) allow
b) aims
c) keep
d) completely
e) thinks
f) prison
g) because of
h) stay
i) thinking of

3. a) promises
b) reporter
c) weight
d) hazard
e) legalisation

4. a) children
b) forbid, ban
c) earning
d) irregularly
e) sell
f) small
g) unusual
h) encourage

GRAMMAR

be compared
higher
to
be legalised
who
as
simply
legalising
that
are cut
know
getting
an

WRITING

individuelle Lösungen

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